

RUSSIA AND THE WEST IN IRAN

public's capital, and three weeks later, on April 21, the Armenian Soviet Republic was established. Thus ended a brief chapter of independence for Transcaucasia.

Political terror followed Soviet occupation of the republics. Those among their leaders who fell into Soviet hands were either destroyed or compelled to collaborate with new regimes. Others escaped abroad and conducted lively political activity to restore independence to their respective countries. Large colonies of Transcaucasian refugees were formed in Turkey and Iran. Moscow, on the other hand, insisted that the republics were free and disclaimed any desire for annexation. To stress this point the Russian government concluded treaties with all three republics, obviously to maintain the fiction of their independence. The new regimes were even encouraged to send diplomatic missions to neighboring countries. Furthermore they were instructed to conclude, on October 13, 1921, the Treaty of Kars with Kemal Turkey to settle the boundary problems. And, as if by the irony of fate, Soviet Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia were told to unite themselves in August, 1922, into the Socialist Transcaucasian Federation, which survived until 1924 when the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. provided for a new administrative redivision of the area.

REVOLUTION AND NATIONALISM IN CENTRAL ASIA

Russian Turkestan was divided before the Revolution into two political areas: an area administered directly by Russia and another area comprising two semiautonomous emirates of Khiva and Bukhara, administered indirectly. The democratic revolution of March, 1917, gave a chance to the liberal elements, both

Russian and Mos-
lem, to gain control of the area directly administered
by Russia, while
the emirs of Khiva and Bukhara reasserted their
independence from
the central government.

The parts of Turkestan under direct Russian
administration com-
prised most of the territory known today as the Kazak,
Kirghiz, Turk-
men, and Tajik Soviet Socialist Republics, and the
khanates roughly
corresponded to the area now known as the Uzbek
Soviet Socialist
Republic. The capital of Russian-administered
Turkestan was Tash-
kent. Among other larger cities of that area were
Kokand, Ferghana,
Chimkent, and Alma Ata in the eastern part, and
Krasnovodsk,